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SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

Report of Poland

Paper submitted by Poland**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by the Department of Geodesy, Cartography and Land Management, Warsaw.

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1. In Poland, two commissions are entrusted with establishing geographical names:

(a) The Commission for Establishing Names of Localities and Physiographical Objects, acts within the Council of Ministers Office and is entrusted with domestic names;

(b) The Commission for Standardization of Geographical Names outside Poland, acts within the Ministry of National Education and is entrusted with world names.

2. The Commission for Establishing Names of Localities and Physiographical Objects establishes the names of independent settlement units, i.e. towns and villages, and their parts (estates, hamlets and parts of towns and villages) as well as the names of such physiographical objects as rivers, lakes, mountains, uplands, lowlands, national parks.

3. The Commission comprises 16 persons: linguists, historians, geographers, cartographers, representatives of the central administration viz. the Council of Ministers Office, Communications Ministry, Transport Ministry, National Defence Ministry, the Main Statistical Office, as well as the national geodetic and cartographic service. The Commission meets four to five times a year. The Commission's constant purpose is to deliver opinions on applications to change place-names.

4. Under Polish administrative regulations, the residents of a given village apply for a change in its name. Such a motion must be supported by at least half the residents who enjoy the franchise. The heads of the commune and of the province (voivode) must next express their opinions. The Commission reviews the application only on a motion by the voivode. It takes into consideration primarily historical data, concordance with language correctness norms, also nationalistic and denominational factors. The Commission presents its opinion on changing a place-name to the Head of the Council of Ministers Office who then gives it official confirmation. It becomes legally binding after the relative ordinance appears in the Monitor Polski (government gazette). The Commission reviews several such applications every year.

5. The following issues were dealt with by the Commission between 1987 and 1992:

(a) Establishment of names of nature reserves and national parks. In recent years many nature reserves and landscape parks have been created in Poland, and names had to be decided on for them. The Commission suggested principles for creating nature reserve names as guidelines for appropriate administrative bodies. In the Commission's opinion, nature reserve names should be created mainly from the names of physiographical objects and localities within the given region. The creation of new names should be avoided;

(b) Establishment of names of localities and physiographical names for a gazetteer. In 1990 the Commission concluded its work on establishing the linguistic forms for the needs of a Polish gazetteer;

(c) Establishment of river and mountain streams on the Polish and Czech and Slovak border region. Some 200 hydronyms were set;

(d) Verification of the list of place-names.

6. A list of official place-names in Poland was published between 1980 and 1982 by the erstwhile Ministry of Administration and Main Statistical Office in collaboration with the Commission. The list presented place-names (nominative, genitive), type of place (town, village, section of village, estate, hamlet, city, district), administrative affiliation (commune, province), post office and railway station (halt). The list comprises upwards of 100,000 place-names. This list is an official document which has been affirmed by an appropriate ordinance of the Ministry of Administration.

7. A general census was held in Poland in 1989, during which place-names throughout the country were verified. The Office of the Council of Ministers received a list of several hundred divergences between the forms of names in the list of official names and those in general local usage. The Commission studied these divergences, rechecked the names on the spot and took decisions on the disputed names. Work was concluded in 1991 on verifying the place-names for the second edition on the list of official place-names in Poland.

8. The Commission for Standardization of Geographical Names outside Poland, acting within the Ministry of National Education, was appointed in its present composition on 11 October 1987. It comprises 17 persons: geographers, cartographers, linguists from the Polish Academy of Sciences and Warsaw University, interested publishing houses, the national geodetic and cartographic service, the Polish Military General Staff, the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Ministry of National Education and the Institute of Foreign Affairs. In the period between the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in August 1987, and May 1992, the Commission held seven plenary meetings during which it was mainly preoccupied with setting some 1,600 Polish exonyms for Europe, outside the territory of the former USSR. A list of these exonyms has been prepared. It contains the names of states, lands and localities in alphabetic order, according to political division, and lists separately hydronyms (maritime regions, inland-water objects etc.) and oronyms according to physical and geographical regional division in hierarchic order. Polish names on the border regions of Bohemia and Slovakia (Slask, Spisz, Orava), which are partly inhabited by Polish-speaking persons have been presented separately, as have Polish names in the Svalbard archipelago of Norway which were given by Polish explorers. The papers presented to the plenary meetings were drafted by a four-person working group of the Commission members, since it does not employ paid staff.

9. Polish exonyms for Africa, North America and South America are currently being elaborated. Once work on establishing exonyms for the remaining parts of the world is concluded, the publication of a volume "Polish World Place Names" is planned. Professor Jerzy Kondracki, the Commission chairman, participated in the fourteenth and fifteenth sessions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, held in Geneva in 1989 and 1991 and, in 1989, published United Nations materials on the standardization of geographical names in Polish (World Cartography, vol. XVIII).

10. Two to four Commission members participated in the ninth, tenth and eleventh meetings of the Tenth United Nations Regional Group for East-Central and South-Eastern Europe in Bratislava.

11. The above-mentioned Commissions apart, work on standardizing geographical names is also pursued by the Polish geodetic and cartographic service: up to 1987, by the Main Office for Geodesy and Cartography and presently, by the Department of Geodesy, Cartography and Land Management of the Ministry of Physical Planning and Construction. The national geodetic and cartographic service has initiated and is partly financing a number of jobs stemming from United Nations decisions concerning the standardization of geographical names, to mention but the national gazetteer elaborated and published in 1991 under the title Geographical Names of the Republic of Poland. It contains some 28,000 geographical names on a 1:500,000 map. This gazetteer was presented to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names at its fifteenth session in November 1991. In 1990 the principles for an IT system of geographical names, based on a 1:10,000 topographical map, were drawn up on a recommendation of the Department of Geodesy, Cartography and Land Management, within the framework of the land information system.

12. A constantly published place-name organ and a data bank of toponymical information are planned to be set up within the framework of the geodetic and cartographic service.

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REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

Report of South Africa

Paper submitted by South Africa**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by Dr. Peter E. Raper, South Africa.

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A. National geographical names authority

1. The South African geographical names authority, the National Place Names Committee (NPNC), met twice a year, while its subcommittee, which does preparatory work, met at intervals. Two lists of standardized geographical names were prepared, Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa Approved 1977-1988 (1991), and Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa Approved 1989-1991 (at the press).

2. The orthographic rules for writing Afrikaans geographical names and Zulu geographical names were revised.

3. A subcommittee was appointed to investigate the desirability of statutory powers for the NPNC. Its recommendation was against such a step.

4. At the end of 1991 the four-year term of office of members of the NPNC expired, and members were appointed or reappointed for a further period of four years.

B. Implementation of United Nations resolutions

5. To encourage the implementation of United Nations resolutions by the relevant authorities, a paper entitled "Implementing United Nations on the standardization of geographical names" was presented at the Fifth Southern African Names Congress, held at Mmabatho, and a paper on "Geographical names authorities and the treatment of names" was read at the 1990 Linguistic Congress of Southern Africa at Stellenbosch. The Executive Committee of the Linguistic Society was requested to petition the relevant authorities to ensure implementation of United Nations resolutions. The topic was also dealt with in depth in the presidential address at the Sixth Southern African Names Congress of 1991 at Berg-en-Dal. A memorandum urging more comprehensive compliance with United Nations resolutions appertaining to the publication of standardized names was submitted to the NPNC. The NPNC took cognizance of these resolutions and endorsed their essentiality. Implementation, however, is dictated by financial considerations.

6. In compliance with resolutions 18 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 15 of the Third Conference, and 16 of the Fourth Conference, recommending the holding of training courses in applied toponymy; resolution 15 of the Fifth Conference, recommending the establishment of national geographical names authorities; and resolution 21 of the Fifth Conference specifically recommending that such a training course be held inter alia in the Africa East Division (which includes Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe), a training course was arranged in collaboration with the Onomastic Research Centre of the HSRC and the University of Pretoria. It was hosted by the University of Pretoria. Experts of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names presented the course: F. J. Ormeling Jnr., N. Kadmon and P. E. Raper.

7. In pursuance of resolution 5 of the Fifth Conference, recommending the provision of training in toponymy at the university or corresponding academic level, a national geographical names survey was launched in South Africa. All the universities in the country as well as several other institutions are participating in this survey. The training course mentioned above served to prepare participants in the survey and thus also addressed resolution 5 of the Fifth Conference.

8. In pursuance of resolutions 4 of the Fourth Conference and 14 of the Fifth Conference, a third edition of the "Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors - South Africa" was prepared. This edition was necessitated by the revision of the orthographical rules of both Afrikaans and Zulu by the NPNC.

C. Publications on geographical names

NATIONAL Place Names Committee (comp)., (1991) Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa Approved 1977-1988 (Pretoria, Government Printer).

NATIONAL Place Names Committee (comp)., Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa Approved 1989-1991 (Pretoria, Government Printer (at the press)).

P. E. RAPER (1989)., Dictionary of Southern African Place Names (Johannesburg: Jonathan Ball Publishers).

_____, Illustrated Dictionary of Southern African Place Names (Johannesburg: Jonathan Ball Publishers (at the press)).

_____, Concise Gazetteer for South Africa (in preparation).

D. Cooperation with professional institutions

Economic Commission for Africa

9. It had been reported at the Fifth Conference that efforts were being made by South Africa to assist neighbouring countries in organizing national toponymic programmes. The concern over non-participation by some African countries in the activities of the Group of Experts, and the concomitant dormancy in toponymic activity, has also been an issue of concern to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). At the request of the Secretary, contact was made with ECA, which is desirous of revitalizing, harmonizing and coordinating toponymic activity in conjunction with the relevant authorities in the Group of Experts. At the request of the Chief of ECA's Cartography and Remote-Sensing Unit the names and addresses of potential contacts in African countries were forwarded to the ECA for contacts.

International Committee of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS)

10. At the XVIIth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences, held at Helsinki in August 1990, at both the Board Meeting and the Members' Meeting of ICOS the matter of cooperation was broached, reinforcing contacts made by Ms. E. M. Närhi of Finland.

E. Toponymic guidelines

11. In pursuance of resolution 4 of the Fourth Conference, the expert from South Africa, as Coordinator for Toponymic Guidelines, requested the Secretariat to distribute a letter to all countries encouraging those countries that had not yet prepared "Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors", to do so. Countries that had already submitted toponymic guidelines were encouraged to consider whether a later edition was required. In addition, a separate communication was directed at each southern African country mentioned above, and this was accompanied by a copy of the third edition of "Toponymic guidelines for South Africa" which could serve as a model or example.

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Item 5 (e) of the provisional agenda*

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION: TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS

Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors

Paper submitted by the South Africa**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by Peter E. Raper, Onomastic Research Centre, Pretoria, South Africa.

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Toponymic Guidelines for Map and Other Editors - South Africa

(Third edition)

Paper submitted by South Africa

*Prepared by Peter E. Raper,
Onomastic Research Centre,
Human Sciences Research Council,
Pretoria, Republic of South Africa.

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PREFACE

Subsequent to the submission in 1987 of the second edition of the Toponymic Guidelines for South Africa, some important developments have taken place in the field of toponymy in South Africa. Several relevant publications have appeared, including the latest list of standardized geographical names in South Africa.

In accordance with a revision of the general orthographic rules applying to the writing of compound words in Afrikaans, the orthographic rules applying specifically to geographical names in Afrikaans have been revised. In addition, the National Place Names Committee has revised the orthographic rules applicable to geographical names derived from Zulu.

In the light of these developments, a third edition of the Toponymic Guidelines for South Africa has been prepared. The hope is expressed that it will be of practical use to cartographers and other editors.

Thanks are expressed to my colleague, Dr L. A. Möller, who compiled the lists of words and elements occurring in geographical names in the Nguni languages.

1 LANGUAGES

1.1 General remarks

South Africa is a country in which many languages are spoken, or have been spoken in the past. The geographical names of South Africa are thus derived from a number of languages: Afrikaans, Dutch, English, French, German, Khoekhoen (Hottentot), Northern Sotho, Portuguese, San (Bushman), Southern Ndebele, Southern Sotho, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, and Zulu.

In the present edition attention will be given primarily to geographical names from the two official languages of the country, namely Afrikaans and English, and to those from Khoekhoen, on which a comprehensive investigation has been carried out by G. S. Nienaber and P. E. Raper, and the results published in three volumes under the title Toponymica Hottentotica. In view of the divergence of the African languages (sometimes referred to as Bantu or Black languages) and the fact that several Language Boards and other responsible organizations are in the process of reformulating their orthographies, geographical names from these languages should not be regarded as immutable at this stage.

1.2 Official languages

1.2.1 General remarks

Afrikaans and English are the two official languages of the Republic of South Africa, and both are written in the Roman script, as are all the languages from which geographical names in South Africa have been derived. The click or suction consonants encountered in the Khoekhoen languages (cf. par. 4.4) are not reflected in geographical names.

Regardless of the language from which a geographical name is derived, that name has official status if it is the name of an official place, cf. par. 2, and if it has been approved by the national geographical names authority of South Africa, the National Place Names Committee. It is thus recognized that geographical names are not language-specific but equally valid in all languages. Once the spelling of a geographical name has been standardized, its status is equal in all the languages of the country. On an unofficial level, however, names in different languages may be applied to the same entity. Thus Pretoria is also known in Northern Sotho as Tshwane, a name that occurs alongside Pretoria on railway sign-boards. In the same way Johannesburg is also known on an unofficial level as Egoli in the Nguni languages and Gauteng in Northern Sotho and Tswana, Bloemfontein as Mangaung, and so forth.

1.2.2 The alphabet

In both Afrikaans and English the same alphabet is used:

A a	H h	O o	U u
B b	I i	P p	V v
C c	J j	Q q	W w
D d	K k	R r	X x
E e	L l	S s	Y y
F f	M m	T t	Z z
G g	N n		

In addition to the normal alphabetical sequence there are certain diacritic signs in Afrikaans which are used in conjunction with with particular vowels, for example â, ă, á, à, ê, ë, é, è, î, ï, í, ì, ô, û, and the like. Particularly the diaeresis occurs in geographical names.

1.3 Spelling rules for geographical names

The rules given below have been formulated by the National Place Names Committee for implementation by this Committee, as well as by the Directorate of Surveys and Land Information, state departments, municipalities and other naming bodies.

1.3.1 General rules

"(i) The recognized spelling and styling of the language from which the name is derived should be adhered to as far as possible.

(ii) Diacritical signs should be used in accordance with the requirements of the language." 1)

1.3.2 Afrikaans place names

"(a) Simplexes

Names consisting of a simplex should not cause any problems.

(b) Compound names

In accordance with a revision of the general orthographic rules applying to the fused or separate writing of compound words in Afrikaans, the orthographic rules applying to geographical names in Afrikaans have been revised. The following proposal has been submitted by the National Place Names Committee to the Minister of National Education for approval:

"The following new rules are not applicable to names already approved. However, interested bodies are free to apply to the NPNC in the prescribed manner for the amendation of an officially approved name in the area of jurisdiction of such a body.

The new rules are applicable to

(i) new place names which in future are submitted to the NPNC for official approval, i.e. future official place names;

(ii) any existing non-official place name for which official status is obtained on application, e.g. a farm name as the name of a motor bus stopping-place, a street name for a post-office, a topographical name as name of a town, etc.

(iii) unofficial place names, among which in the first place existing and new topographical names, e.g. names of mountains, lakes, rivers." 2)

"Principles

(a) The elements of a compound with a proper name as first component are written separately and with capital letters.

(i) A proper name plus a generic term:

Bont Willem Rivier, Benoni Stasie, Durban Poskantoor, Geduld Uitbreiding, Greyling Spruit, Makatini Vlakte, Mbali Halte, Piet Joubert Snelweg, Strijdom Tonnel, Van Riebeeck Dorp, Willem Schoeman Dam.

(ii) An acronym, abbreviation derived from a proper name, or a name derived from characters:

PE Droogdok, SAW Stadion, Sappi Fabriek, Yskor Halte.

(iii) An ordinary word with proper name function plus a generic term:

Akasia Vallei, Dolfyn Strand, Maroela Park, Sonskyn Oord.

Note: A place name with one of the following terms as final element is written as one word, without a hyphen:

-burg (Boksburg), -loo (Waltloo), -stede (Droomstede), -ton (Standerton), -ville (Besterville), -vliet (Sandvliet), -vue (Heldervue).

(iv) A place name with connecting s between the component elements is written separately, regardless of whether the first element is a personal name or not:

Besters Pos, De Langes Nek, Moordenaars Hoek, Pioniers Pas, Schoemans Kloof, Van den Bergs Poort.

(b) When two family names are combined to form a place name, the name is written with a hyphen, and both family names retain their capitals:

Graaff-Reinet, Muller-Nel, Schweizer-Reneke, Van Zyl-Smith, Pienaar-Le Roux.

(c) Partially translated names:

Where only the generic term of a compound name is translated into Afrikaans, the name is written separately:

Coronation Road - Coronation Weg, Jubilee Square - Jubilee Plein, Leisure Bay - Leisure Baai, Mgeni River - Mgeni Rivier.

(d) A place name formed by the addition of distinguishing or contrastive locatives such as bo, onder, sentraal, noord, etc., are written as two (or more) words:

Brakpan Oos, Durban Sentraal, Ermelo Wes, Rietvlei Onder, Standerton Noord.

The separate writing of elements is also applicable in cases where an addition of a non-proper name occurs, e.g. Koppie Alleen, Koppie Enkel, Berg Alkant(e), Heuwels Weerskante, Ou Kraal Onder, Plantasie Bo.

(e) The components of a place name formed by the prefixing of agter, voor, bo, onder, benede, middel, sentraal, noord, noordoos, suid, suidwes, oos, wes, etc., are written separately:

Agter Sneeuberg, Benede Oranje, Sentraal Natal, Suidwes Vrystaat, Noordwes Kaap, Wes Transvaal.

(f) A place name consisting of an adjective and a proper name is written separately:

Groot Karoo, Klein Letaba, Koue Bokkeveld, Midde Ooste, Nuwe Constantia, Ou Nobamba, Verre Noord Transvaal, Wit Mfolosi.

Note: Place names consisting of a proper name plus the component Nieu are written with a hyphen:

Nieu-Bethesda, Nieu-Gelderland.

Place names consisting of the component Nieu plus a common noun are written as one word:

Nieumark, Nieusig, Nieuveld.

(g) Place names comprising an adjective and a noun are written separately regardless of whether the adjective is attributive and regardless of whether the noun is singular or plural:

Agterste Poort, Blou Kranse, Boonste Vleie, Brak Water, Goeie Uitsig, Klein Begin, Ou Myn, Ronde Koppies, Witste Kruine.

(h) Place names comprising an adjective plus a personal name (first name or family name) are written separately:

Bont Willem, Groot Giel, Rooi De Vries, Groot Willem Rivier, Wilde Gouws Hoogte.

(i) Place names with a syntactic structure, e.g. those consisting of a sentence or a phrase, retain the styling of the syntactic structure with which the name corresponds. The chief elements are capitalized.

Aanhou Wen, Keer Voor, Hoog en Droog, Kom Loer In, Die Drie Susters, Ou Thomas se Kop.

Note: Names of plants and so forth which are normally written in Afrikaans with a hyphen retain that hyphen when employed as elements of place names, e.g. Haak-en-Steek, Noientjie-van-die-Bosveld, Wag-'n-Bietjie." 3)

1.3.3 Dutch place names

Dutch names are retained where the Dutch spelling has become the accepted form and is being used as such. For example, we write De Doorns, Franschhoek, Volksrust, Zeerust. This rule normally applies to important places.

The Dutch spelling can also be retained if a post office or siding, et cetera, is named after the farm on which it is situated and the farm name has a registered Dutch spelling and the Place Names Committee is requested to retain the old spelling. Each case is decided on merit.

The Committee still maintains the general principle of giving an Afrikaans form to certain names that are submitted in the Dutch form. Thus we write Blouberg, Noupoort, Seekoeivlei and Sondagsrivier." 4)

1.3.4 English place names

"English names already existing overseas that are given to places in South Africa in most cases retain their original spelling and form. English names that ere formed and given in this country, however, may differ in spelling and form from the 'imported' names.

(a) Simplex names

There should be no problems in regard to the spelling of simplex names.

(b) Compound names

It is not easy to provide guidelines for the spelling of compound English place names. In practice a certain amount of irregularity is found in the writing of of such place names. For example, names ending in crest, end, gate, hill, ridge, view, may be written either as one word or as two. Thus are encountered Wavecrest but Leisure Crest, Teaksend but Flats End, Westgate but North Gate, Foxhill but Calf Hill, Redhouse but Blue House, Aloeridge but Gravel Ridge, Bayview but Mountain View.

The Place Names Committee has studied the written form of English place names in South Africa. An analysis of certain types of word combinations has indicated that in some cases a pattern, or at least a tendency, can be discerned in the writing of English place names.

(i) Names that are written separately

(a) Most names of which the first part is one of the following adjectives: Bonny, Golden, Lower, Old, etc. Examples are Bonny Rest, Golden Grove, Lower Adamson, Old Place, New Centre, Rocky Hill, Sweet Hope.

(b) Names in which the generic term is still strongly felt as a common noun, e.g. Albert Falls, Algoa Bay, Amatole Basin, Berg River Valley, Bretby Mine, Brighton Beach, Cape Flats, Nagle Dam, Sand River, Table Mountain.

(c) Most names of which the second element is a plural noun, e.g. Birch Acres, Beecham Woods, Broken Slopes.

(d) Names with Crown, Fort, Loch, Mount and Port as the first part, e.g. Crown Reefs, Fort Beaufort, Loch Maree, Mount Frere and Port Alfred.

(e) Names of which the second part indicates the situation, e.g. Beaufort West, Boksburg North, Modder East, Randfontein South.

(f) Names consisting of a numeral plus a noun, e.g. Four Pines, Three Sisters, Twenty Four Rivers.

(g) Names consisting of Glen plus a personal name, e.g. Glen Karen, Glen Lynden.

(h) Phrases used as place names, e.g. Ascot on Vaal, Ebb and Flow, Henley on Klip, The Hole in the Wall.

(i) Names of which the first part is written with an apostrophe, e.g. Davey's Halt, Gordon's Bay, Eagle's Crag, Lion's Head.

(j) Names consisting of the abbreviation St plus a proper name, e.g. St Andrew's, St Mark's.

(ii) Names written as one word

The following names are usually written as one word:

(a) Names ending in bourne, bury, combe, dene, hurst, lea, leigh, mere, wick, etc. For example Ashbourne, Woodbury, Ashcombe, Forestdene, Meadhurst, Birchleigh, Buttermere, Thornwick.

(b) Names beginning with Broad, Cross, Gay or Middle, e.g. Broadlands, Crossmoor, Gayridge, Middlebrook.

(c) Names beginning with Bal, Brae, Clan, Craig, Dal, Holm, Pen, Sel, Strath, etc. For example Balcraig, Braeview, Clanville, Craigend, Dalview, Holmleigh, Pendale, Selcourt, Strathcona, etc.

(d) Names composed of syllables or parts of names or words, such as Atcem (from Atlas Cement Company), Corobrick (Coronation Brick), Navex (Navarro Exploration), Soweto (South Western Townships)." 5)

1.3.5 Dual forms

"In South Africa, where English and Afrikaans are the official languages, one may expect a large number of place-names that are used in one language also to be used in a translated form in the other language. In the course of time dual forms of names have established themselves for the same places.

Three kinds of translation can be differentiated, viz.

(a) names of which all the parts are translated, e.g. Bloedrivier - Blood River, Coffee Bay - Koffiebaai, Drieankerbaai - Three Anchor Bay, etc.

(b) names of which both parts are ordinary words in the language concerned, but only the second part is translated, e.g. Bergrivier - Berg River, Melkbosrand - Melkbos Ridge, etc.

(c) Names of which the first part is a personal name and the scond part a generic term, e.g. Boshoffweg - Boshoff Road, Caledon Square - Caledonplein.

In terms of the country's policy of bilingualism the members of each language group have the right to insist on the form they use in the natural context of their own language. For official purposes, however, precedence may be given to one form, that is, 'the first of the two equals'. This precedence is based on the derivation and linguistic composition of the name, its age, the population group preponderating in the locality concerned, etc.

We write Brighton North but Randfontein Suid. In combinations of this kind the precedence form in the first type is generally English, and in the second, Afrikaans. In the first type the main word is derived from English, in the second from Afrikaans. The part of the name which indicates the name type or the point of the compass, or which constitutes a descriptive addition, will be indicated in the same language as the main word in the precedence form. Thus we write Bay Road (Bayweg), Bergrivier (Berg River), Oos-Rand (East Rand). The precedence is underlined. Combinations of which the first part of a word derived from an indigenous language are written as one word if the second part is Afrikaans and as two words if the second part is English, e.g. Gamtoosrivier, Kaya Fort". 6)

1.3.6 Khoekhoen and Saan place names

"The Khoekhoen (formerly written Khoikhoin) and Saan (formerly written San) languages are virtually extinct within the borders of the Republic. The possibility that these languages will produce any new place-names is therefore slight. There are, however, a large number of farm and other place names derived from these languages, of which some may be submitted to the National Place Names Committee for approval as official names. In such cases the following principles will apply:

(a) Khoekhoen place names are normally styled solid.

(b) Diacritical signs to indicate pitch, nasalization, etc., are not used.

(c) Clicks are not indicated.

(d) Established forms of spelling, such as Henkries, Kango, Knysna, are left unchanged although they do not accord with the orthography of the languages concerned.

(e) Spelling should be changed as little as possible, except that at the end of a name:

(i) -p may be standardized as -b,

(ii) -bep/-beb/-bes, -beep/-beeb/-bees, -biep/-bieb/-bies, may be standardized as -bib/-bis,

(iii) -sep/-seb/-ses/-sieb/-sies, etc., can be normalized as -sib/-sis, -rep/-res as -reb/-res, and so forth.

(f) The sound (x) is represented by ch, except in cases where its representation in some other way has already become established, e.g. Gamka, Khorixas.

Compounds of which one element is Khoekhoen and the other English or Afrikaans are treated in accordance with the principles that apply to Afrikaans or English place names. Hence the forms Kei Mouth, Gouritzrivier, Naab se Berg.

Khoekhoen place names that have come into the official languages through some other African language and have been Europeanized are treated in accordance with the principles that apply to place names derived from the other African language concerned". 7)

1.3.7 Place names from African languages

"There are place names in various parts of the Republic of South Africa which, though derived from African languages, have become Europeanised not only in pronunciation but also in their written form. Thus we find Kyalami instead of IKhaya lami ("Home") and Silkaatsnek from the Europeanised Silkaats, which is Moselekatse in Sotho and UMzilikazi in Zulu.

Firmly established or traditionally adapted African language place names in White areas remain in their Europeanised form, e.g. Congella, Illovo, Isando, Umbogintwini.

Names of places in self-governing territories and in urban areas inhabited by Blacks are written in accordance with the officially recognized orthography of the African language concerned. In these territories and areas the diacritical signs of the language concerned are also used in place names. Personal names and surnames occurring in or used as place names are also written in accordance with the recognized orthography of the language concerned." 7)

In the Nguni languages the locative prefixes e-, o-, ku- and kwa- combine with the element that follows them. In the same way the initial vowels i- and u- combine with the element that follows them, the first consonant of which is always written with a capital. If the name stands alone or at the beginning of a sentence, the first letter (regardless of whether it is a vowel or a consonant) is also written with a capital. Hence, for example,

In isolation/start of sentence	Within sentence
EDulini	eDulini
EMpangeni	eMpangeni
UMthatha/EMthatha	uMthatha/eMthatha
KwaJojo	kwaJojo
IGoli/Egoli	iGoli/eGoli

The suggestions given below are recommended with a view to establishing principles in order to obtain some degree of uniformity in respect of Nguni place names.

The problem with Zulu place names can be resolved only if a distinction is drawn between the way they are written in the context of Zulu and in the context of other languages, specifically English and Afrikaans. The demands of these contexts are different and, in the difficult cases, irreconcilable. In other words, it is not possible to write Zulu so that it conforms at once with the orthographic requirements of Zulu and with the writing conventions of other languages.

When it comes to Zulu names, three conventions in particular present problems in the context of English or Afrikaans:

(a) The use of more than one capital letter within the same name, e.g. EMpangeni and KwaZulu (at the beginning of a sentence);

(b) The use of a capital letter for the second letter of a name, e.g. eMpangeni (within a sentence), and

(c) Varying initial vowels in different syntactic contexts, e.g. UMzimkhulu (as subject or object) as opposed to eMzimkhulu (as a locative).

The National Place Names Committee is concerned primarily with the writing of place names in English and Afrikaans contexts and therefore has no choice but to write Zulu names in accordance with the conventions of these languages. This necessarily results in breaches of Zulu orthography in the above-mentioned respects.

The following guide-lines are therefore suggested for the writing of Zulu names in future:

(a) Only the first letter of a name should be written with a capital, for example Empangeni and Umzimkhulu.

(b) This principle need not necessarily be applied to names that begin with the prefixes Kwa-, Ku- and Ka-. KwaZulu is acceptable.

(c) Where it can be established that the initial vowels of names may vary with syntactic context, it is desirable to write these names without an initial vowel. Should this be the case with Umzimkhulu for example, Mzimkhulu would be the appropriate form.

(d) Where omission of the initial vowel could give rise to an incorrect semantic interpretation of the place name, the vowel should be retained. The following are examples:

RETENTION OF VOWEL	OMISSION OF VOWEL
Ondini (Drakensberg)	Ndini (pitiful)
Itshelamabhunu	Tshelamabhunu
(the stone of the Boers)	(tell it to the Boers)

These proposals could create the impression among Zulu speakers that the conventions of their language are being deliberately overlooked. If this happens, the National Place Names Committee may consider giving dual forms in the case of names that are affected, in other words one written in accordance with 'general' conventions and one in accordance with the demands of Zulu orthography.

Ga- and Ha- in the Sotho languages are joined to the component that follows. Both Ga-/Ha- and the component following begin with capital letters, e.g. GaDikgale, GaRankuwa.

In Tsonga Ka- and Eka- and the component following them are written as separate words, e.g. Eka Mpofu, Eka Mhinga.

In Venda Ha is joined to a personal name that follows it. The Ha- begins with a capital letter and the personal name with a small letter, e.g. Hamasia, Hamakuya.

When a place name consists of a contraction or an abridgement of more than one word, it is written as one word, e.g. Thabatshweu, Intabankulu." 8)

1.4 Pronunciation of South African geographical names

1.4.1 General remarks

(a) When geographical names are spoken, they tend to be pronounced as though they belonged to the language of the speaker, or to the language in the context of which they are being used. Thus Afrikaans names would be anglicized when spoken by English-speaking persons, and English names pronounced as though they were Afrikaans when pronounced by Afrikaners.

(b) This tendency is particularly strong in the case of Khoekhoen, since the Khoekhoen languages are no longer extant in the Republic of South Africa. Thus not only are the suction consonants or "clicks" omitted, but the original pitch (high, middle and low) is ignored, and the names are pronounced as though they were Afrikaans or English. This phonological adaptation is sometimes reflected in the orthography.

(c) Geographical names derived from the various African languages, too, are adapted phonologically (and orthographically) to Afrikaans and English.

(d) For the pronunciation of Dutch, English and German geographical names, see Toponymic Guidelines for The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Austria, Germany, always taking into account (a) above.

1.4.2 Afrikaans

Pronunciation Key

Spelling	Pronunciation (IPA symbol)		Spelling	Pronunciation (IPA symbol)	
	Primary value	Secondary value		Primary value	Secondary value
a	a a:		n	n	
aa	a:		ng	ŋ	
b	b	p	nn	n	
bb	b		o	o:	o
c	k s		ô		
ch	x k		oe	u	oe o:
d	d	t	oë	uə	
dd	d		oei	ui	
e	ɛ e: ə		oo	o:	
ee	e:		ooi	o:i	
eë	e: ə		p		
ei	ə i		pp	p	
eu	ø:		qu	kv	
f	f		r	r	
ff	f		rr	r	
g	x g		s	s	
gh	g		ss	s	
h	h		t	t	
i	ə i		tt	t	
ie	i		u	œ	
j	j		ui	œ y	
k	k		uu	y	
kk	k		v	f	
l	l		w	v	
ll	l		x	x ks	
m	m		y	ə i	
mm	m		z	z	

1.5 Linguistic substrata recognizable in place-names of South Africa

Many place names in South Africa are of European origin, or have their origin in European languages, e.g. Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and so forth. The linguistic substrata peculiar to each of these languages will ipso facto feature in these place names. This will also apply to elements from these languages occurring in hybrid place names in which other elements (San, Khoekhoen, African languages) are present. Then there are popular etymological (or folk etymological) adaptations which seem on the surface to be, for example, English or Afrikaans names, but which are, or were, Khoekhoen, San, etc., for example

Goodhouse, Koppies, Koringhuis. Certain names of which the lexical meaning is not immediately evident, e.g. The Coombs, Illovo, also reveal Khoekhoen or African language substructures when researched. By and large the linguistic substrata can readily be discerned in geographical names which have become adapted into English or Afrikaans from the Khoekhoen and African languages, e.g. Abbabis, GaMarota, Hlobane, Kraggakamma, and the like. Less readily discernible is the Khoekhoen substratum in names adapted into, for example, Xhosa, e.g. Bulura, Qora.

2 NAMES AUTHORITIES AND NAMES STANDARDIZATION

2.1 The National Place Names Committee (NPNC)

"The National Place Names Committee (NPNC) is the highest advisory body on official place names in the Republic of South Africa. Its members, appointed by the Minister of National Education, include experts in the various languages from which place names are derived, onomasticians (specialists in names and naming), and representatives of Government departments and of academic institutions. Its mandate includes -

(a) the gradual correction of the spelling of all geographical names in the Republic of South Africa;

(b) the approval or rejection of all proposed new place names;

(c) the consideration of all cases where a change of a name is desired;

(d) the compilation of dictionaries of geographical names." 9)

"Proposed names for 'official' places (i.e. names of cities, towns, townships, post offices, railway stations and sidings, scheduled stopping-places for buses of the South African Transport Services (SATS)), are submitted to the Executive Officer of the NPNC, using the prescribed questionnaire. These names are then checked against existing names to ensure that they will not duplicate names already approved, and they are then submitted to the NPNC which evaluates them on the basis of linguistic and other principles and recommends their approval or rejection. The final decision rests with the Minister of National Education." 10)

From the outset names of both cultural and of topographic features came under the scrutiny of the NPNC. Its published lists of approved names, however, have included only so-called "official" place names, i.e. names of cities, towns, townships, post offices, railway stations, and stopping-places of buses of the South African Transport Services (now Transnet).

With a view to the implementation of resolutions of the UN Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the UNGEGN expert for South Africa submitted to the NPNC at its meeting of 21 September 1989 a proposal that read as follows:

"(i) In accordance with Resolution 4E of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, lists of standardized geographical names, or gazetteers, are published by many countries in the world.

(ii) At the 14th Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) held in Geneva from 17 to 26 May 1989 the importance was once again emphasized of such lists of approved standardized names for each country, and the

essentiality thereof for effective communication, as well as the social and economic advantages, stressed. With reference to the above-mentioned resolution of the First UN Conference countries were encouraged to prepare and publish lists of standardized names, together with appropriate information on each name as explicated in the relevant resolutions.

(iii) With regard to the stated advantages and the image of the Republic of South Africa at a national and international level it is important that the National Place Names Committee prepare such a list of geographical names or gazetteer.

(iv) It is therefore proposed that the National Place Names Committee nominate a subcommittee to investigate the feasibility of compiling and publishing a gazetteer of geographical names in South Africa in such a way that it complies with international standards and, as far as economically viable, it contains the data to do so." 11)

At the meeting of 26 April 1990 the Executive Officer of the NPNC pointed out that in terms of rationalization of State Departments the functions of the NPNC had been restricted to the following:

"The Committee advises the Minister of Constitutional Development and National Education:

(a) on all proposals received from interested bodies for the approval of new place names and for the changing of existing and approved place names in the Republic of South Africa;

(b) on request and at its own initiative, on the revision of approved place names in order to keep pace with changes in spelling and styling.

Since the approval of official place names (cities, towns, townships, post offices, motor bus stopping places and railway stations) is at issue, the Minister specifically scaled down the functions of the NPNC to render only this service. If an outside organization were to identify any further needs regarding place names, such an organization would be free to fulfil these needs at its own expense, for example the provision of lists of geographical names." 12)

The Executive Officer also informed the meeting "that a former Minister of National Education had approved the publication of a supplementary list (1978-1988 and subsequently annually) to the publication Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa and in South West Africa," and added that "the National Place Names Committee was only responsible for the publishing of official place names, namely towns, railway stations, etc." 13)

2.2 Urban Advisory Committees on Street and Place Names

An Urban Advisory Committee on Street and Place Names was established by the Pretoria City Council in 1972. It comprises experts in English, Afrikaans, and local history, as well as a representative of the Onomastic Research Centre of the Human Sciences Research Council and city councillors. Its function is to consider proposed names for suburbs, streets and parks of Pretoria, and to advise the City Council on these names. It has established a name-bank from which names may be drawn when required.

Other municipalities have similar advisory committees, e.g. Roodepoort.

3 SOURCE MATERIAL

3.1 Maps

South Africa 1:50 000, 1 920 sheets, 1967-1988.

South Africa 1:250 000 Topo-cadastral edition, 70 sheets, 1970-1988.

South Africa 1:250 000 Topographical edition, 70 sheets, 1970-1988.

Southern Africa 1:500 000 Administrative edition, 23 sheets, 1977-1986.

Southern Africa 1:500 000 Aeronautical edition, 23 sheets, 1977-1986.

Southern Africa 1:500 000 Topographical edition, 23 sheets, 1977-1986.

World Aeronautical Chart ICAO 1:1 000 000 (Southern Africa), 16 sheets, 1972-1990.

Note: All of the above map series are published by the Chief Director of Surveys and Land Information, Mowbray.

3.2 Gazetteers

3.2.1 Official

(a) National Place Names Committee, comp. 1991. Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa (Approved 1978-1988). Pretoria: Government Printer. As the title states, this publication contains names of "official" places, i.e. names of cities, towns, townships, post offices, railway stations, and stopping-places of buses of the South African Transport Services (now Transnet), some 1 700 in all. An introduction of 11 pages outlines the procedures followed by the NPNC when considering proposed names, as well as general suggestions and guidelines for the spelling and styling of names from the various languages from which the names are derived.

(b) Onomastic Research Centre, comp. 1976. Place Names in the Cape Province and South West Africa. Pretoria, Human Sciences Research Council. Comprizing some 30 000 entries, this computerized gazetteer was compiled for the Cape Province from the Topo-cadastral series 1:250 000 (Pretoria: Government Printer, 1954-1975), and for Namibia from the sheet South West Africa 1966 1:1 000 000 (Windhoek: Surveyor General, 1966, partial revision 1972).

(c) Place Names Committee comp. 1978. Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa and in South-West Africa. Pretoria: Government Printer. This publication contains an alphabetical list of all "official" place names (cf. par. (a) above) approved to 1 April 1977, some 18 500 entries. An indication is given of the location of each named entity in terms of province, the route on which it is situated, or the centre under which it falls, as relevant, and the feature type to which the name refers. An introduction of 121 pages, in Afrikaans and English, is devoted to principles governing the approval or rejection of names, guidelines on the spelling and styling of names in Afrikaans,

English, San, Khoekhoen, and the indigenous African languages, and to historical aspects of the National Place Names Committee.

(d) Raper, P. E., ed. 1991. Concise Gazetteer of South Africa. Pretoria: Onomastic Research Centre. Compiled in accordance with Recommendation E of Resolution 4 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, this gazetteer contains some 5 636 entries. It is based on the 1:1,000,000 scale aeronautical charts and other sources, with relevant data as stipulated in Resolution 4E of the First UN Conference. Besides the standardized geographical name, each entry gives an indication of the type of feature, its location in terms of degrees and minutes, district and province, and its status (official or unofficial). Where relevant, official and unofficial variants have been added, as well as names and data from other sources. With a view to a second, expanded edition, the names are being updated in accordance with the latest orthographic rules applicable to the various languages from which they are derived.

3.2.2 Private

(a) Skead, C. J. 1973. Zoo-Historical Gazetteer. Grahamstown: Cape Provincial Museums. Published as Volume 10 of the Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums, this gazetteer contains a list of some 11 000 place names with alternative (historical) names for the place or entity concerned. The location of each feature is given in terms of degrees and minutes.

(b) Leistner, O. A. and Morris, J. W. 1976. Southern African Place Names. Grahamstown: Cape Provincial Museums. Published as Volume 12 of the Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums, this gazetteer contains some 42 000 geographical names taken from maps, other gazetteers, lists of farms and of post offices, and other sources. The location of each feature is given in terms of one sixteenth of a degree square (e.g. 22 19 AC), magisterial district, and province.

(c) Rousseau, W. L. 1975. Suid-Afrikaanse Pleknaamleksikon. Cape Town: Kennisuitgewers. This 'lexicon' of geographical names, in Afrikaans, is contained in the same volume as the index to a children's encyclopaedia entitled Kennis ('knowledge'). It comprises about 130 pages (triple column), some 11 000 entries, and gives the location of each place in terms of province, grid reference (e.g. K-6, L-3, etc.), and description (e.g. 'west of Springs', 'at Germiston').

3.3 Other sources

(a) Publications such as those of the Onomastic Series of the Onomastic Research Centre of the Human Sciences Research Council.

(b) Raper, P. E. 1989. Dictionary of Southern African Place Names (Second edition). Johannesburg: Jonathan Ball Publishers. This dictionary, with some 5 000 entries, includes the names of the major geographical and cultural or man-made features in Southern Africa. Standardized forms of geographical names are marked with an asterisk, and in all entries the feature type is indicated, as well the location of the named entity in terms of the sixteenth of a degree square in which it is situated, as well as

province, and distance and direction from one or more other features. The scope and intention of this publication are wider than those of a traditional gazetteer, for it also contains information on the origin and meaning of the names, some local historical data, an indication of the language(s) from which the name is derived, and so forth.

(c) An Illustrated Dictionary of Southern African Place Names, by Peter E. Raper, is at the press. It contains some 5 000 entries on names of topographical and cultural features. Standardized names have been marked as such.

4 GLOSSARY OF WORDS FREQUENTLY OCCURRING IN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES AS DESCRIPTIVE TERMS OR AS SPECIFIC ELEMENTS, AND WHICH ARE USEFUL FOR THE UNDERSTANDING OF MAPS

4.1 Afrikaans

Aalwyn	aloe
Aan	at, on
Aand	evening
Aap	monkey
Aar	underground watercourse
Aard(e)	earth
Aasvoël	vulture
Agter	behind
Als	Artemisia afra
Altyd	always
Alwyn	aloe
Amandel	almond
Amper	almost
Anys	aniseed
Apie(s)	small monkey(s)
Appel	apple
Appelkoos	apricot
Arbeid	labour
Arend	eagle
Armoed	poverty
As	ash
Asbes	asbestos
Assegaai	assegai
Baai	bay
Bad	bath
Baken	beacon
Baklei	fight, battle
Bakoond	oven
Bak	basin
Bamboes	bamboo
Bank	shelf
Bas	bark
Bees	ox
Berg	mountain

Biesie	bulrush
Bles	blaze, bald
Blink	shiny
Bloed	blood
Blou	blue
Bobbejaan	baboon
Boesman	Bushman, San
Bok	buck, goat
Bont	pied, spotted
Boom	tree
Boonste	top, uppermost
Bos	wood, bush, thicket
Brak	brackish, saline
Breë	broad, wide
Bruin	brown
Buffel	buffalo
Bul	bull
Bult	hill, hillock
Dagbreek	dawn, daybreak
Dal	dale, valley
Dam	dam, reservoir
Das(sie)	rock rabbit, coney
Deel	divide; portion
Derde	third
Die	the
Diep	deep
Dik	thick
Donker	dark
Doring	thorn
Dorp	town
Draai	bend, curve
Drie	tree
Droë	dry
Duin	dune
Dwaal	err, roam
Dwars	transverse, diagonal
Een	one
Eerste	first
Eiland	island
Eland	eland
Esel	ass, donkey
Fontein	fountain, spring
Gans	goose
Gat	hole
Geduld	patience
Geel	yellow
Geluk	luck, happiness
Gemsbok	oryx
Genade	mercy

Gif	poison
Glad(de)	smooth
Goeie	good
Gras	grass
Groen	green
Groot	large, big
Gruis	gravel
Grys	grey
Hart(e)bees(t)	Bubalis caama
Helder	clear, bright
Heuning	honey
Heuwel	hill
Hoek	corner, narrow glen
Hol	hollow
Hoog	high
Hout	wood
Jag	hunt
Jakhals	jackal
Jakkals	jackal
Kaal	bare, barren
Kaap	cape
Kalk	lime
Kalkoen	turkey
Kameel(perd)	giraffe
Kanon	cannon
Kat	cat
Keerom	turnabout
Klein	little, small
Klip	stone
Kloof	ravine
Koedoe	kudu
Kop	hill
Koppie	hillock, knoll
Koring	wheat
Kraai	crow
Krans	cliff, crag
Krom	crooked
Kruis	cross, athwart
Lang	long
Leeu	lion
Lekker	pleasant
Lelie	lily
Lemoen	orange
Los	loose
Matjies	bulrush
Meer	lake
Melk	milk
Middel	middle
Modder	mud

Moed	courage
Mooi	pretty
Neus	nose, headland, shoulder (of mountain)
Nooit	never
Noord	north(ern)
Nou	narrow
Nuwe	new
Olien	wild olive (Olea africana)
Olifant	elephant
Onder	lower, under
Ongeluk	misfortune, accident
Oorlog	war
Oos	east
Os	ox
Ou	old
Palmiet	bulrush (Prionium spp.)
Pampoen	pumpkin
Pan	depression, pan
Papkuil	bulrush (Typha sp.)
Patrys	partridge
Perd(e)	horse
Plaat	patch, stretch
Plat	flat
Poort	defile, gorge
Put(s)	well
Rand	edge
Rant	ridge
Reebok	deer, roe-buck
Renoster	rhinoceros
Riet	reed
Rivier	river
Rond(e)	round
Rooi	red
Rots	rock
Ruigte	coppice, thicket
Rus	rest
Saai	sow
Seekoei	hippopotamus
Ses	six
Sewe	seven
Skaap	sheep
Skiet	shoot
Skilpad	tortoise
Skurwe	rough
Slang	snake
Smal	narrow
Sneeu	snow
Soet	sweet
Sout	salt

Spioen	spy
Spits	pointed, peaked
Springbok	springbok (Antidorcas euchore)
Stad	city
Steenbok	steenbok, ibex
Steil	steep
Sterk	strong
Stil	quiet, silent
Stof	dust
Strand	beach
Stryd	struggle
Suid	south(ern)
Suikerbos	sugar-bush (Protea mellifera)
Suur	sour
Swart	black
Taaibos	'tough bush' (Rhus spp.)
Tafel	table
Tier	tiger, leopard
Toring	tower
Turf	peat
Twee	two
Twyfel	doubt, uncertainty
Uitkoms	deliverance
Uitkyk	look-out, prospect
Uitsig	view
Uitspan	outspan, unharness
Vaal	grey
Vallei	valley
Vals	false
Vark	pig
Veg	battle
Ver	distant, far
Vet	fat
Vier	four
Vis	fish
Vlak	shallow
Vlei	marsh
Voël	bird
Volstruis	ostrich
Voor	before, in front
Vrede	peace
Vryheid	liberty
Vye	fig
Vyf	five
Waai	blow
Warm	hot
Water	water
Wei	graze
Wes	west(ern)

Wild(e)	wild
Wildebees(t)	gnu, wildebeest
Wilge(r)	willow
Wit	white
Wolwe	wolf
Yster	iron
Ystervark	porcupine

4.2 Dutch

See Toponymic Guidelines - Netherlands

4.3 English

See Toponymic Guidelines - United Kingdom

4.4 Khoekhoen (Hottentot)

4.4.1 General remarks

The Khoekhoen languages, which have become extinct within the Republic of South Africa, are characterized by suction consonants or 'clicks' which are, or may be, semantically determinative. They are the dental click, represented in writing by the symbol / , the palatal click ≠, the lateral click // , and the cerebral click, represented by !. In place names these suction consonants are generally omitted. Thus for /Ae//gams the form Aegams is written. In appellatives, epithets and other words, these suction consonants are indicated. In the following lists, the suction consonants are given where relevant, for it is from these appellatives etc. from which place names are derived.

Although some of these elements are not in line with the modern orthography (of Nama) they are listed here because that is how they are encountered in place names. Only the most frequent elements are listed. For a more comprehensive listing cf. Nienaber, G.S. and Raper, P.E. Toponymica Hottentotica, Vol. 3, Pretoria: HSRC 1980, pp. 71-122.

Ani	bird
Aru	Albizzia tree
Au	bitter
Bi	milk
Dai	milk
Dani	honey
Dawe	Tamarix sp.
Gama	crooked
Ganna	lye-bush, Salsola
Gaxu	long
Gei	large
Goba	speak, argue
Goma	cow, ox
Gu	sheep
Tsao	ash
Tsara	dust

Tsau	well
Tsawi	ebony, Euclea Pseudebenus
Tsoari	behind
Tsuni	sand
Uri	louse
Xam	lion
Xau	excrement
Xora	waterhole dug in sand
/A	moist, wet
/Ae	hot, fire
/Ami	ostrich
/An	moist, wet
/Aru	dung
/Asa	new
/Au	fountain
/Ga	grass
/Gam	two
/Garu	leopard, tiger
/Gina	fly
/Giri	jackal
/Goa	child
/Gom	dense, overgrown
/Gowa	dune
/Gowe	wild fig
/Gu	hot, boiling
/Gui	one
/Hara	breast, nipple
/Haru	bulrush
/Hei	grey
/Huni	Boscia tree
/Ka	wild orange (Parkinsonia sp.)
/Kara	gully, rift, crevice
/Khawi	grass (Aristida sp.)
/Khora	rocky, rough, stony
/Kuru	sour
/Nara	Acacia tortilis
/Nera	baboon
/Noma	fig
/O	stinking
/Oro	old
/U	salt
/Ui	stone
//Ara	blunt, truncated
//Ari	raisin bush (Grewia sp.)
//Au	fish
//Eixa	angry
//Ga	attack, battle
//Gam	water
//Gana	Acacia giraffae

//Gara	quiver tree, Aloe dichotoma
//Garu	waterhole in rock
//Gu	springbok
//Guru	quartz
//Haragu	korhaan (Otis afroides)
//Kama	hartebeest
//Kara	gravel
//Khae	sand
//Khu	thorn
//Nui	fat
≠A	reed
≠Are	grass (Aristida)
≠Ga	cliff, plain
≠Gama	brown
≠Go	pointed
≠Goa	mud
≠Gui	many
≠Ha	flat, plain
≠Hawa	broad, wide
≠Hoa	blue
≠Hui	willow (Salix capensis)
≠Khari	small
≠Khoa	elephant
≠Nu	bladk
≠O	narrow
!Am	green
!Are	karee (Rhus lancea)
!Ari	steenbok
!Ga	poison
!Gam	deep
!Gawa	Catophractes alexandri
!Gho	Acacia hebeclada
!Gom	wild olive, (Olea africana)
!Gou	athwart, transverse
!Gu	wild pear (Dombeya rotundifolia)
!Guwu	round
!Hau	sill, rock bank
!Hoa	crooked, twisting
!Huni	yellow
!Kae	dark
!Kani	eland
!Kha	wild orange (Parkinsonia sp.)
!Kho	limestone
!Khoro	limestone
!Khuwi	marsh, swamp
!Na	glistening, shining
!Naba	rhinoceros
!Nae	giraffe
!Nani	finger, six

!Nara	Acanthosicyos sp.
!Naru	ebony (Euclea pseudebenus)
!Nau	ochre
!Nawa	rhinoceros
!Noa	porcupine
!Noe	Acacia detinens
!Nu	far, distant
!Unia	palm tree
!Uri	white

4.5 Nguni

4.5.1 General remarks

In the Nguni languages the generic term usually precedes the specific. Specific terms and other words occurring in geographical names are not always readily recognizable as such, since they are subject to adaptation as required in different syntactic contexts.

Some geographical names derived from the Nguni languages are marked by initial vowels, prefixes and suffixes. The most prevalent of these are:

Prefixes:	**Suffixes:**
aba-	-ana
ama-	-ane
e-	-eni
i-	-ini
ka-	-weni
ko-	-wini
ku-	
kwa-	
o-	
um-	
umu-	

bele	breast; mountain
bila	to boil; stirring furiously
bhula	sound of hitting, thrashing; washing
bomvu	red, brown, earth colour
busa	to reign
cwili	to sink away, dive
daka	muddy, dirty
deda	to make way for
(i)dla	to eat, devour
donsa	to pull, tear, drag
duma	thundering, shooting
fafa	to spray
fihla	to hide away, to conceal
fu	to strip
geza	to wash

ginga	to swallow
goja	to swallow
gude	distant, far away
hlamba	to wash, washing
hlanga	to bring together, gathering of; reed(s)
hlaza	blue, green
hlaza	green grass or herbage; freshness
hlaza	species of edible tuber (Plectranthus esculenthus)
hlaza	bush shrike (Laniarius spp.)
-hle	good, nice, lovely, beautiful, pretty
jabula	to rejoice, be happy
kanya	to clean
khonjwa	to point, indicate
kude	distant, far away
k(h)ulu	large, great
kunetha	raining, where it rains
kunuka	smelly, bad odour
khwela	to climb, ascending
lambo	bathing; river, water
lola	to sharpen
makaza	cold, frost
mane	four
mbili	two
mhlope	white, grey
mnyama	black; darkness; unfathomable, deep
mpofu	grey, tawny
mpupu	sandy
mphuphu	finely ground like powder; sand
mtoti	sweet, agreeable
ncane	small
ndlula	to pass, to go across to
nyama	meat
phamba	to catch, to puzzle
phuma	to rise, to come out
shona	sinking, setting (of the sun)
tshaa/tshaza	spraying of mists
tshezi	brick red, ground coloured
twala	to carry
vuka	to arise, awaken

5 GENERIC TERMS ENCOUNTERED IN SOUTH AFRICAN PLACE-NAMES

5.1 General remarks

For names derived from Dutch, English, German, etc., see Toponymic Guidelines for Map and Other Editors - The Netherlands, England, Germany, etc.

5.2 Afrikaans

Aar	underground watercourse
akker	field, plot of land
baai	bay
bad	bath, (mineral) spring
bank	shelf
berg	mountain
bron	spring
bult	hillock, ridge, rise
burg	castle, (hence) town
dal	dale, dell, glen
dam	dam, reservoir
deel	part, portion
dorp	town
drif	ford
eiland	island
fontein	fountain, spring
fort	fort, stronghold
gat	hole
grot	cave, grotto
heuwel	hill
hof	court, garden
hoogte	height, prominence
huis	house, home
kamp	camp, paddock
kasteel	castle
klip	stone, rock
kloof	gorge, ravine
kolk	eddy, pool
kom	basin, bowl
kraal	corral, kraal, village
krans	cliff, precipice
kruin	crown, summit, crest
kuil	pool
laagte	depression, dip, valley
land	land, field
leegte	depression, dip, valley
loop	watercourse
lughawe	airport
meer	lake
mond	mouth
myn	mine
nek	neck, col
neus	promontory, shoulder (of mountain)
oog	fountain(head)
oord	place, resort
pan	pan, basin, hollow
pas	(mountain) pass

plaas	farm, place
poel	pool
poort	gateway, defile
pos	post
punt	point
put(s)	well
rand	edge, rim
rant	ridge, range of hills
rif	reef
rivier	river
rug	ridge, hill
rus(t)	rest, repose
sloot	ditch, furrow, gully
spits	peak, summit
spruit	creek, stream, tributary
stad	city
stasie	station
stroom	stream
val	fall(s)
vallei	valley
veld	field, pasture
vlakte	plain, flat(s)
vlei	marsh, moor, swamp
vliet	brook, rivulet
wal	bank, embankment, wall of dam
waterval	waterfall
woud	forest, wood

5.3 Khoekhoen

5.3.1 General remarks

In common with other substantives, place names generally end in -b (masculine) or -s (feminine). These endings are not reflected in the following lists of generic terms. Here again the elements are sometimes given as they occur in place names, and consequently they do not always comply with the modern orthography. The click or suction consonants, /, //, ≠ and !, are integral element of words or morphemes and, although omitted from place names when these are written, they are or may be semantically determinative. The following lists should, therefore, correctly be systematized under each of these consonants. However, in view of the use for which they are intended, and the fact that the users may not be au fait with the Khoekhoen languages, and since these consonants are not reflected in place names and one would not know under which consonant to seek the element, the listing is alphabetical according to the letter following the suction consonant. Thus a, /a, //a, ≠a and !a would all be listed under a.

a	hole
/a	marsh, swamp
≠a	reed
!a	river

am	mouth, fountain, spring
/ara	gully
!are	hill, hillock
/au	fountain
dana	head, hill
dani	honey
dao	mountain pass, road
dawe	Tamarix usneoides
dom	throat, channel, furrow
ei	face, plain
≠ga	flat, plain
//gam	water
!gan	path, road
//gana	Acacia giraffae
!gari	river
//garu	waterhole in rock
//gau	place, settlement
/gawa	hat, cliff
≠go	peak
≠goa	mud
!goa	ravine
/gowa	dune
≠gui	nose, cliff
//ha	gorge, ravine
hai	tree
/hara	knoll
!hao	ledge, sill, bank
!hara	kraal
hei	tree
//hoa	cliff, hollow
!homi	mountain
/horo	neck
!hu	earth, ground, land
/huni	Boscia tree
kamma	water, river
/kara	gully
//khae	sand
!kho	lime, limestone
/khom	stone
//khu	thorn
!khuwi	marsh, swamp
kobi	marsh, swamp
koe	hill, mountain
≠kuru	watervein
kuwi	marsh, swamp
mû	eye, spring
//na	horn
!na	stomach, plain
!nani	ridge, edge

≠nari	island
//noa	hollow
!nom	head, hill
!noro	hind-head, hill
ob	river
om	house
/ori	iron
ro	round hill
sam	breast
sana	mole
su	pot, depression
toro	Karoo ground
tsau	well
tsawi	ebony (Euclea pseudebenus)
/ui	rock, stone, mountain
!unia	palm tree
xora	waterhole dug in sand
xanu	drift, ford

5.4 Nguni

amabedlana	little breasts; hills
amabele	breasts; mountains
amadi	water
amati	water
amanzi	water
amatshe	stones
amayiwa	water
-banga	beer calabash with broad mouth; species of flat-topped tree (Albizzia gummifera)
-bazo	axe
-bele	breast
-bhembhedu	water tree (Anastrabe integerrima)
-bhuma	bulrush (Prionium spp., Typha capensis)
-bogodo, imbogodwe	grindstone
-bubesi	lion
-bumba	clay, to form from clay
-bululu	puff-adder
-buzana	small goat
-buzi	goat
-caba	flat area, cleared of bush
-chibi	pan
-chweba	lagune
-cibululwana	small puff-adder
-cwebeni	lagune
domba	sugar cane (Sorghum saccharatum)
-duli	anthill, hill, hillock
-duma	hillock
-dumbe	edible tuber (Colocasia antiquorum)

-dwala	large, flat rocks
-fafa	driving mist, spray of waterfall
-fazi	woman
-fene	baboon, monkey
-fenjane	small baboon, monkey
-godi	hole, ravine, kloof, hollow place, valley
-gude	wild banana (Strelitzia augusta)
-gudu	herb (Hypoxis latifolia)
-hlaba	small aloe (Sonchus dregeanus)
-hlabathi	soil, sand
-hlahla	tree
-hlanga	reed(s)
-hlati	forest
-hlawe	gravel
-hlinza	to strip, to skin
-hohoba	gorge
-hosha	gorge
-gazi	blood
-gquma	dune; mound, hillock
-gqunyana	hillock
-juba	dove
-kanda	head
-kawu	vervet monkey
-khaya	home
-khaza	common red tick
-khomazi	whale cow
-khukhuze	tree (Cassine capensis)
-lalazi	whetstone
-lambo	river
-langa	day, sun
-laza	whey
-lotha	ash, ashes
-manza, manzi	water
-mati	water
-mazambane	potatoes
-mbila	rock rabbit, coney
-mehlo	eyes
-mfula	river
-mkondo	spoor, tracks
-mkhonto	spear, assegai
-mlotha	ashes
-mpange (impange)	forest tree (Olinea cymosa)
-mphanga (umphanga)	fern tree (Cycadaceae, Encephalartos altensteinii)
-mphophoma	waterfall
-mpofu	eland buck
-mpukane	fly
-mpungushe	jackal
-mthunzi	shade, shadows

-mvula	rain
-mzi	home
-ndawo	place, town, settlement
-ndlela	road, path
-ndlovu	elephant
-ngwe	leopard
-ngwenya	crocodile
-nja, -nje	dog
-nkangala	ridge
-nkentshane	wild dog
-nkonjane	swallow
-nkonyane	calf
-nkosi	chief
-ntaba	mountain
-ntenesha	red hare
-ntombi	girl, maiden
-nyathi	buffalo
-nyoka	snake
-nyoni	bird
-phunzi	bull
-phondo	horn
-sangomo	witchdoctor, medicine man
-sundu	date palm (Phoenix reclinata)
-tshe	stone
-tuba	a pass
-vubu	hippopotamus
-zangomo	witchdoctor, medicine man
-zembe	axe
-zi (umzi, mzi)	kraal, village, home, town
-zimbi	iron, iron ore

6 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Republic of South Africa is divided into four provinces, namely the Cape Province, Natal, the Orange Free State, and Transvaal. Each province is, in turn, divided into magisterial districts, each with its seat of magistracy. In most instances the magisterial district takes its name from the seat of magistracy. Where this is not the case, the name of the seat of magistracy will, in the lists that follow, be given in brackets after the name of the magisterial districts. As may be expected in a country in which there are two official languages, both an English and an Afrikaans name may occur for a magisterial district, particularly when such names contain an easily translatable generic term. In these cases both the English and Afrikaans form will be given, with an asterisk to indicate which form takes precedence for official purposes (vide par. 1.2.3.5). In view of the incorporation of certain magisterial districts into neighbouring independent states from time to time, such as Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda, and self-governing national states such as KaNgwane, KwaNdebele, KwaZulu, QwaQwa and so forth, the lists are not to be regarded as final.

6.1 Cape Province

Aberdeen
Adelaide
Albany (*Grahamstown/Grahamstad)
Alexandria
*Aliwal North / Aliwal-Noord
*Barkly East / Barkly-Oos
*Barkly West / Barkly-Wes
Bathurst
*Beaufort West / Beaufort-Wes
Bedford
Bellville
Bredasdorp
Britstown
Calvinia
Caledon
Calitzdorp
Cape (Cape Town/Kaapstad)
Carnarvon
Cathcart
Ceres
Clanwilliam
Colesberg
Cradock
De Aar
*East London/Oos-London
Elliot
Fort Beaufort
Fraserburg
George
Goodwood
Gordonia (Upington)
Graaff-Reinet
Hankey
Hanover
Hartswater I
Hartswater II
Hay (Griquatown/*Griekwastad)
Heidelberg
Herbert (Douglas)
Hermanus
Hopefield
Hopetown
Humansdorp
Indwe
Jansenville
Joubertina
Kenhardt
Kimberley
King William's Town
Kirkwood
Knysna
Komga
Kuilsrivier
Kuruman
Ladismith
Lady Grey
Laingsburg
Maclear
Malmesbury
Mdantsane I
Mdantsane II
Mdantsane III
Mdantsane IV
Middelburg
Molteno
Montagu
Mossel Bay/*Mosselbaai
Mount Currie (Kokstad)
Murraysburg
Namaqualand/Namakwaland (Springbok)
Noupoort
Oudtshoorn
Paarl
Pearston
Philipstown
Piketberg
Port Elizabeth
Postmasburg
Prieska
*Prince Albert / Prins Albert
Queenstown
Richmond
*Riversdale Riversdal
Robertson
*Simon's Town/Simonstad
*Somerset East/Somerset-Oos
*Somerset West/Somerset-Wes
Stellenbosch
Sterkstroom
Steynsburg
Steytlerville
Stockenström (Seymour)
Strand
Stutterheim
Sutherland

Swellendam
Tarkastad
Tulbagh
Uitenhage
Uniondale
Vanrhynsdorp
Venterstad
*Victoria East / Victoria-Oos
Victoria West / Victoria-Wes
Vredenburg
Vredendal
Vryburg I
Vryburg II
Vryburg III
Warrenton
Wellington
Williston
Willowmore
Wodehouse (Dordrecht)
Worcester
Wynberg

6.2 Natal

Alfred (Harding)
Babanango
Bergville
Camperdown
Dannhauser
Dundee
Durban
Eshowe
Estcourt
Glencoe
Hlabisa (Mtubatuba)
Impendle
Inanda (Verulam)
Ingwavuma
Ixopo
Klip River/*Kliprivier (Ladysmith)
Kranskop
*Lions River/Lionsrivier (Howick)
Lower Tugela (Stanger)
Lower Umfolozi (Empangeni)
Mahlabatini
Mapumulo
Mooi River/*Mooirivier
Mpendle
Msinga
Mtonjaneni
Mtunzini
Ndwedwe
Newcastle
New Hanover
Ngotshe (Louwsburg)
Nqutu
Nkandla
Nongoma
Paulpietersburg
Pietermaritzburg
Pinetown
Polela (Bulwer)
Port Shepstone
Richmond
Ubombo
Umbumbulu
Umlazi
Umvoti (Greytown)
uMzinto (Scottburg)
Underberg (Himeville)
Utrecht
Vryheid
Weenen

6.3 Orange Free State / Oranje-Vrystaat

Bethlehem
Bethulie
Bloemfontein
Boshof
Bothaville
Brandfort
Bultfontein
Clocolan
Dewetsdorp
Edenburg
Excelsior
Fauresmith
Ficksburg
Fouriesburg
Frankfort
Harrismith

Heilbron
Hennenman
Hoopstad
Jacobsdal
Jagersfontein
Koffiefontein
Koppies
Kroonstad
Ladybrand
Lindley
Marquard
Odendaalsrus
Parys
Petrusburg
Philippolis
Reddersburg
Reitz
Rouxville
Sasolburg
Senekal
Smithfield
Theunissen
Trompsburg
Ventersburg
Viljoenskroon
Virginia
Vrede
Vredefort
Welkom
Wepener
Wesselsbron
Winburg
Zastron

6.4 Transvaal

Alberton
Amersfoort
Balfour
Barberton
Belfast
Benoni
Bethal
Bloemhof
Bochum
Boksburg
Bolobedu
Brakpan
Brits
Bronkhorstspruit
Carolina
Christiana
Coligny
Cullinan
Delareyville
Delmas
Eerstehoek
Ermelo
Germiston
Giyani
Groblersdal
Heidelberg
Highveld Ridge/'Hoëveldrif
Johannesburg
Kamlushwa
Kempton Park
Klerksdorp
Koster
Krugersdorp
Letaba (Tzaneen)
Lichtenburg
Lydenburg
Malamulele
Marico (Zeerust)
Mdutjana
Messina
Mhala
Middelburg
Mokorong I
Mokorong II
Mokorong III
Moutse I
Moutse II
Moutse III
Namakgale I
Namakgale II
Naphuno I
Naphuno II
Nebo
Nelspruit
Nigel
Oberholzer
Pietersburg
Piet Retief

*Pilgrim's Rest/Pelgrimsrus (Sabie)
Potchefstroom
Potgietersrus
Pretoria
Randburg
Randfontein
Ritavi I
Ritavi II
Roodepoort
Rustenburg
Schweizer-Reneke
Sekgosese
Sekhukhuneland
Seshego
Soshanguve I
Soshanguve II
Soutpansberg (Louis Trichardt)
Springs
Standerton
Swartruggens
Thabamoopoo
Thabazimbi
Vanderbijlpark
Ventersdorp
Vereeniging
Volksrust
Wakkerstroom
Warmbaths / *Warmbad
Waterberg (Nylstroom)
Waterval-Boven
Westonaria
Witbank
White River/*Witrivier
Wolmaransstad

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SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

Report of Sweden

Paper submitted by Sweden**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by Ms. Anki Mattisson, National Land Survey of Sweden.

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1. National Geographical Names Authority

The National Land Survey (NLS) has been the Geographical Names Authority in Sweden since 1974. The Place Names Advisory Board was created in 1985 (see below).

Some other governmental organizations are involved in the standardization of specific groups of geographical names. The Swedish Government, for example, approves names of communities and Railway Inspectorate of Sweden names of railway stations.

2. The Swedish Place Names Advisory Board

The Place Names Advisory Board (PNAB, Sw. Ortnamnsrådet), formed in 1985 and administered by the NLS, has met several times a year during the period in question. The board is no authority in itself and makes no formal decisions. Its role is rather to lay down principles regarding the standardization of geographical names and to disseminate information about this work.

The board and its members can do this in various ways, e.g. by writing statements, participating in conferences or writing papers. Thus, members of the board have contributed to some of the literature mentioned in this report.

The PNAB also deals with formal place name matters. Among such issues are questions on Finnish and Saami place names in Sweden, names for postal purposes, on road signs and names in the real estate register.

3. Reduction of the number of exonyms

The use of exonyms in cartography has been reduced. Swedish map publishers and the NLS are following the resolutions of the UN Conferences.

There are different opinions among teachers in geography, linguists and the media about reducing exonyms in cartography and other different media. Discussions in geographical and linguistic reviews show that old exonyms - as far as Sweden is concerned, mostly the original German exonyms - have taken a strong root and become part of the public consciousness.

4. Romanization systems

The pinyin system for Chinese is normally accepted in both cartography and other media. The situation for Cyrillic is a little more complicated. The common Nordic romanization system is mostly used in newspapers and literature but not always in cartography. For example, Russian names in maps and text in the new Swedish National Encyclopaedia, where the editors have adapted a modified version of the Nordic romanization system. For text and maps in all other languages the same romanization systems are used as in Encyclopaedia Brittanica.

5. Toponymic Guidelines

Sweden published a Toponymic Guidelines in 1983 but as much has changed especially regarding standardization of geographical names in multilingual areas, it is planned to be revised.

6. Multilingual areas

6.1 Saami names

In 1988 the NLS decided to introduce the Lule-Saami orthography in official maps in accordance with the UN recommendations from 1972. The decision from 1983 about North-Saami orthography has been accomplished in the so called "Mountain Map" and other official maps. The Lule-Saami orthography does not include as many diacritics as the North-saami, only á and the phonetic sign for the /ng/-sound.

In the Lule-Saami area there are Saami names not only on the maps but also in the real estate register. The latter will be dealt with in the following way. A computerization of the real estate registers is going on in Sweden, where all names concerned are verified. In connection with this reform the Saami names in the register will be accounted for with old as well as new Lule-Saami orthography, the latter as additional information for each Saami name.

On the maps both orthographies will be used for the corresponding settlement names, but when designating real estate properties the names will be spelt according to the old orthography. This solution has been settled by the NLS after having consulted Saami representatives as well as other parties concerned.

The two separate decisions about Saami orthographies have caused some problems about borderlines between North- and Lule-Saami and Lule- and South-Saami. The following map will show how the borderline is drawn today. The borderline farther north is the result of a Swedish Government decision which says that the area will include names in both North- and Lule-Saami orthography.

6.2 Finnish names

Finnish is spoken in the north-east of Sweden, in the so called Tornedalen (Torne Valley) close to the Finnish border. In this area some of the Finnish place names are spelt according to Finnish orthography and other names are adapted to the rules of the Torne Valley Finnish. A third category are names of Finnish origin that have been slightly influenced by Swedish since the 16th and 17th century and therefore have an incorrect Finnish spelling. This group consists mostly of village names. All three variations can be found on the maps of northern Sweden. In some cases there are two names on the maps, the official and a variant name.

6.3 Finnish names in central Sweden

Finnish names are also found in central Sweden, mainly in the forests of the provinces of Värmland (close to the Norwegian border) and Dalarna (Dalecarlia). Groups of Finns settled here in the 17th and 18th century and Finnish was spoken until the 20th century. Today no Finnish is spoken in those areas; the place names and the building tradition are the only monuments of this immigration. (Finland was actually a part of Sweden at that time, so it is not correct to call it immigration.)

The geographical names in these areas are in many cases adapted to Swedish today and they have been standardized in accordance to Swedish spelling rules. But as they are looked upon as cultural linguistic monuments, there have been proposals for new spelling of the names, more in accordance with their Finnish origin. The NLS has taken the proposals into consideration and decided to restandardize the Finnish names. A new spelling system with for example Finnish /kk/ instead of Swedish /ck/ for double k is taken into practical use.

6. List of country names

The Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs has just published a list of country names in Swedish. The main purpose of the list is to be an internal guideline.

8. Publications

A manual for local politicians and officials dealing with names in the municipalities (e.g. street names) appeared in 1989. The book was published by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and written in co-operation with members of the PNAB. It is called "Place Names. Name designation and name usage in the municipalities (Sw. Ortnamn. Namngivning och namnskick i kommunerna.).

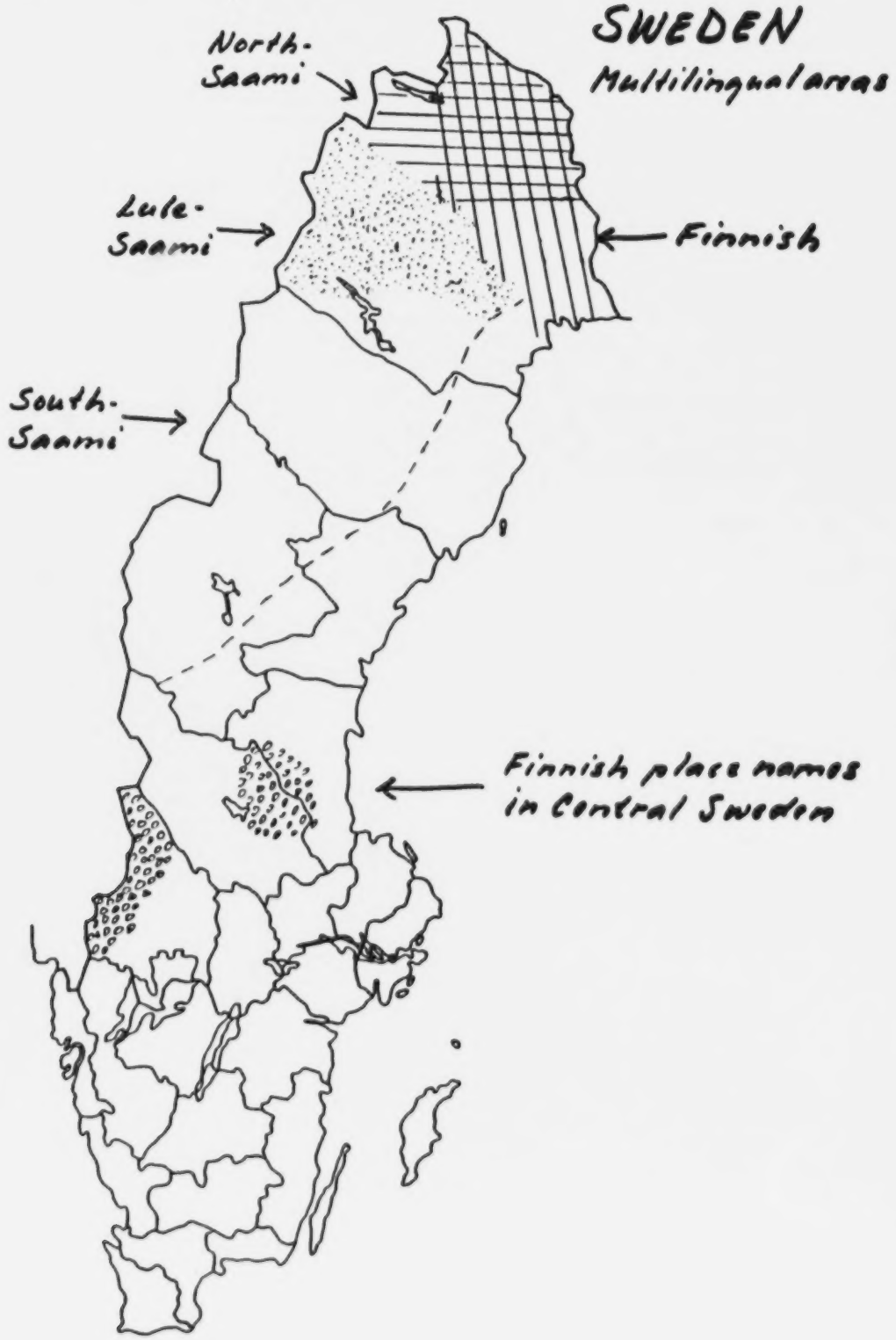
In 1991 a small gazetteer called Swedish geographical names - pronunciation and spelling (Sw. Svenska ortnamn - uttal och

stavning) was published by the NLS of Sweden and the Swedish Language Committee. The book contains some 3 000 names of Swedish, Finnish and Saami origin. The main purpose of the book is to provide recommendations for pronouncing and spelling names in Sweden. The ordinary user is regarded as a teacher, journalist or just an interested Swede.

In 1992 the NLS published the first number in a series about geographical names and the preservation of names (Sw. Ortnamn och namnvård). It is intended to deal with various matters concerning the standardization of names. Number 1 is called "Place names and the formation and registration of real estates (Sw. Ortnamn, fastighetsbildning och fastighetsregistrering). It draws attention to the role that place names play in various cadastral survey procedures.

9. Toponymic Data Bases

See separate report.


SWEDEN
Multilingual areas
North-
Saami
Lule-
Saami
Finnish
South-
Saami
Finnish place names
in Central Sweden

UNITED
NATIONS

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9 July 1992

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SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 6 (c) of the provisional agenda*

TOPONYMIC DATA FILES: AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING (ADP) SYSTEMS

US GeoData: the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)

Paper submitted by the United States of America**

* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by Roger L. Payne.

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U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Earth Science
Information Center (ESIC)

Factsheet

US GeoData Geographic Names Information System

Geographic names information available from the U.S. Geological Survey

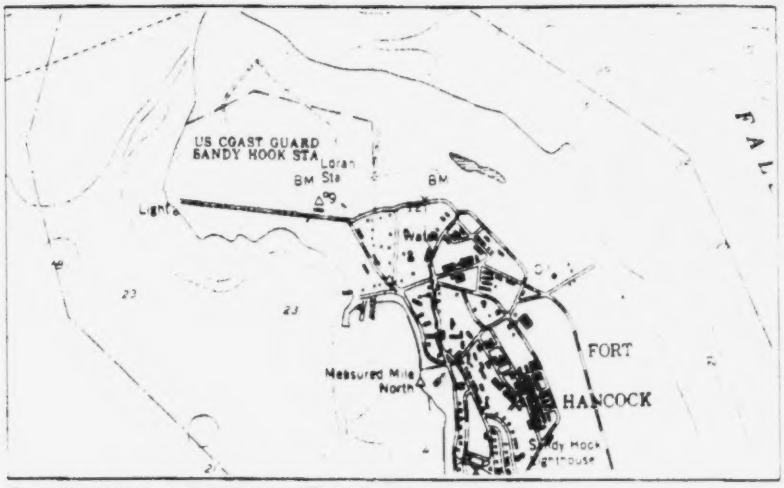
The Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), a data system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in cooperation with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, contains name information for all known places, features, and areas in the United States that are identified by proper names. Data from the GNIS can be incorporated into other data bases.

The GNIS is composed of three data bases. Each provides different, but related, information about names in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the territories and outlying areas of the United States.

National Geographic Names Data Base

The National Geographic Names Data Base (NGNDB) is the largest GNIS data base. It contains records on more than 2 million geographic names in the United States—from populated places, schools, reservoirs, and parks to streams, valleys, springs, and ridges. Each entry includes the federally recognized name for the feature; former names, as well as variant spellings of the official name; the status of the name as determined by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names; the county in which each feature is located, the geographic coordinates in degrees, minutes, and seconds that locate the approximate center of an area or feature or the mouth and source of a linear feature such as stream; and the names of the USGS topographic maps on which the feature appears. Elevations and sizes are available for some features. A bibliographic code referring to the source of information for each feature name in the data base is also available.

The NGNDB is used in mapmaking, local and regional planning, service delivery routing, marketing, site selection, environmental analysis, emergency preparedness, and genealogical research.



Section from a 7.5-minute topographic map of Sandy Hook, New Jersey-New York

The data base is organized into files for each State, territory, or outlying area. Data for each State are compiled into two phases. Phase I lists names obtained from large-scale 7.5-minute USGS topographic maps. Phase II lists historical, as well as current, names from other sources such as the National Ocean Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Federal Communications Commission. The names of railroads, roads, and streets are not included in Phase II compilation. An interim gazetteer is available in the form of bound computer listings, magnetic tapes, and microfiche. Under the National Gazetteer program, a State gazetteer is published when Phase II information is complete. These State gazetteers are volumes of "The National Gazetteer of the United States of America" published as USGS Professional Paper 1200. A factsheet describing the National Gazetteer program is also available.

Standard reports, which can also be generated from the data base, are designed to convey general location and descriptive information. These reports are sold by State and include all geographic name records in the GNIS from the individual State and territory data base files. The entries are sorted alphabetically by feature name. However, customers with unusual requirements may request specialized searches of the data base or specify custom report formats.

A report that lists all populated place records in the GNIS for the United States is also a standard product. The entries are listed alphabetically by feature name. This report includes the official place-name; the feature type ("ppl" for populated place in all cases); the State; the county in which the place is principally located; the geographic coordinates in degrees, minutes, and seconds that locate the approximate center of the place; and the 1:24,000-scale USGS topographic map on which the feature appears. The elevation in feet is given if available. Census population figures are available for some ppl's. A bound listing titled "Populated Places in U.S. and Territories" can be purchased for $80.

NGNDB reports are available in the form of bound listings, magnetic tapes, and microfiche. All State or territory standard

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bound listings are in column format and use 132 characters per line. The microfiche is a duplicate of the bound listing. Standard magnetic tape files are in fixed field length format with a logical record length of 240 characters. All tapes are available in either EBCDIC or ASCII character code, with standard IBM labels, ANSI labels, or no labels. They may be written at densities of 1,600 or 6,250 bytes per inch (bpi), and the user may specify any block size less than 32,000 bytes in keeping with the report format logical record length. The standard format populated places tape file has a logical record length of 132 characters.

ID NUMBER - 34006438
NAME - Sandy Hook
TYPE OF FEATURE - Cape
STATE/COUNTY FIPS CODE - 34025
GNIS MAP NO - 0073
GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES - 402635N0735925W
VARIANT NAME(S) - Sandy Point (NJ-T14/Map 13), Sandy Pointe, Sant Punt(NJ-T14/Map 9), Godyns Punt (NJ-T14/Map 9), Goodwins Point (NJ-T14/Map 3),Gradyns Point (NJ-T14/Map 6)
USGS QUADRANGLE CODE - 40073-DB
COUNTY NAME - Monmouth
FEDERAL STATUS - BGN
MAP OR CHART NAME - Sandy Hook
CENTER OF AREAL FEATURES/MOUTH OF LINEAR FEATURES - 402635N0735925W

Sample of National Geographic Names Data Base listing for Sandy Hook, New Jersey

Topographic Map Names Data Base

The Topographic Map Names Data Base (TMNDB) is a digital inventory of topographic maps published by the USGS. The data base is in five files, each representing a USGS map series. Each file lists the map name, the geographic coordinates referring to the corner of the map closest to 0 degrees latitude and 0 degrees longitude, the first eight characters of the Map Reference Code developed by the USGS that uniquely identifies each map (except TOPO100 and TOPO250), the map scale, and the two-digit Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code identifying the State. A bound listing titled "USGS Topographic Names Data Base" can be purchased for $34.

TOPO024 contains information about topographic maps published at scales of 1:24,000, 1:25,000, and 1:20,000 portraying 7.5 minutes of latitude by 7.5 minutes of longitude in the United States, some territories, and various map sizes of outlying areas. The year of the last map name change, the associated previous name of the map, the county in which the area is located, and the publication date are available on request.

TOPO062 contains entries for topographic maps portraying 15 minutes of latitude by 15 minutes of longitude at scales of 1:62,500 and, for some older maps, 1:63,360. The file also includes entries for 1:63,360-scale Alaska maps that portray 15 minutes of latitude by 20-36 minutes of longitude. The map publication date and five-digit FIPS code identifying the State and county is available on request. Many maps described in this file are no longer published.

TOPO100 contains entries for topographic maps portraying 30 minutes of latitude by 1 degree of longitude. These entries describe 1:100,000-scale maps in the conterminous States and Hawaii.

TOPO125 contains entries for topographic maps portraying 30 minutes of latitude by 30 minutes of longitude and contains entries only for the conterminous States. The maps represented are at a scale of 1:125,000. The publication date and the five-digit FIPS code identifying the State and county for which the map portrays a partial area can be obtained through a special search of the file. Maps represented in this file are no longer available for purchase as current maps, but can be purchased as out-of-print maps.

TOPO250 contains entries for 1:250,000-scale topographic maps portraying 1 degree of latitude by 2 degrees of longitude.

TMNDB reports are available in the form of standard bound listings and magnetic tapes. The bound listings are in column format and use 132 characters per line. The magnetic tape files are in fixed field length format with a logical record length of 80 characters. The tapes are available in either ASCII or EBCDIC character code, with standard IBM labels, ANSI labels, or no labels. The tapes may be written at densities of 1,600 or 6,250 bpi, and the user may specify any appropriate block size less than 32,000 in keeping with the report format logical record length. Specialized searches are also available on request.

Reference Data Base

The Reference Data Base is organized into two files. The Generic Reference File contains an entry for every generic term encountered in the compilation of the NGNDB (for example, creek, river, run, mountain, and hill). Over 2,000 generic terms are listed in this file. Each of these generic terms is cross-referenced to the appropriate GNIS feature type classifier associated with entries in the NGNDB. Examples of unusual or obscure terms, or terms applied to features in an unexpected or incongruous fashion, are given. Information from this file is available in the form of bound listings or magnetic tapes on request. The Bibliographic Reference File contains annotated bibliographies of all source materials used in the compilation of the NGNDB. The information in this file can be obtained on request.

Ordering information

To get more information on the design, development, and data content of the GNIS or on individual State and territory data base file status, contact:

GNIS Manager
U.S. Geological Survey
523 National Center
Reston, VA 22092
703-648-4544

To get ordering information for GNIS products, contact any Earth Science Information Center (ESIC) or call 1-800-USA-MAPS.

To purchase volumes of "The National Gazetteer of the United States of America," contact:

USGS Book and Report Sales
Box 25425
Denver, CO 80225
303-236-7476